



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Bill No. 7094

LCO No. 3823

*03823 _____ *

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Introduced by:

REP. CAFERO, 142nd Dist.

SEN. DELUCA, 32nd Dist.

AN ACT CONCERNING TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 13b-79p of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

3 (a) The Commissioner of Transportation shall implement the
4 following strategic transportation projects and initiatives:

5 (1) Restoring commuter rail service on the New Haven-Hartford-
6 Springfield line, including providing shuttle bus service between the
7 rail line and Bradley International Airport;

8 (2) Implementing the New Britain-Hartford busway, subject to the
9 availability of federal funds;

10 (3) Rehabilitating rail passenger coaches for use on Shore Line East,
11 the New Haven-Hartford-Springfield line and the branch lines;

12 (4) Developing a new commuter rail station between New Haven

13 and Milford;

14 (5) Meeting the costs of capital improvements on the branch lines; [,
15 not to exceed forty-five million dollars;]

16 (6) Meeting the capital costs of parking and rail station
17 improvements on the New Haven Line, Shore Line East and the
18 branch lines; [, not to exceed sixty million dollars;]

19 (7) Funding the local share of the Southeast Area Transit federal
20 pilot project;

21 (8) Completing the Norwich Intermodal Transit Hub Roadway
22 improvements;

23 (9) Conducting environmental planning and assessment for the
24 expansion of Interstate 95 between Branford and the Rhode Island
25 border;

26 (10) Completing preliminary design and engineering for Interstate
27 84 widening between Waterbury and Danbury;

28 (11) Funding the Commercial Vehicle Information System Network;

29 (12) Purchasing not less than twenty-four electric rail cars for use on
30 the New Haven Line and Shore Line East commuter rail services;

31 (13) Improving bike access to and storage facilities at transportation
32 centers;

33 ~~[(12)]~~ (14) Funding the capital costs of the greater Hartford highway
34 infrastructure improvements in support of economic development;
35 and

36 ~~[(13)]~~ (15) Completing a rail link to the port of New Haven.

37 (b) The commissioner shall evaluate and plan the implementation of
38 the following projects:

39 (1) Improving Routes 2 and 2A in the towns of Preston, North
40 Stonington and Montville;

41 (2) Upgrading the Pequot Bridge in Montville;

42 (3) Evaluating rail links to other ports;

43 (4) Supporting and encouraging the dredging of the state's
44 commercial ports;

45 (5) Developing a second rail passenger station between New Haven
46 and Milford; and

47 (6) Expanding Route 9.

48 (c) The commissioner shall, in consultation with the board,
49 recommend the implementation of additional transportation
50 improvement projects. Upon the approval of the Governor and
51 allocation by the State Bond Commission, the proceeds of bonds issued
52 pursuant to section 13b-79q may be used to support such projects.

53 [(d) The commissioner shall identify obstacles to improved rail
54 service on Shore Line East, including, but not limited to, increased
55 frequency of service, reverse commute service and weekend service.
56 The commissioner shall report his findings and recommendations to
57 the General Assembly not later than January 1, 2007.]

58 [(e)] (d) The commissioner shall ensure that the state's
59 transportation plans, including, but not limited to, the master
60 transportation plan, are consistent with the strategy adopted pursuant
61 to section 13b-57g.

62 [(f)] (e) The rail station and parking initiative identified in
63 subsection (a) of this section shall include at least four Shore Line East
64 stations east of New Haven.

65 [(g)] (f) The commissioner is authorized to enter into grant and cost-
66 sharing agreements with local governments, transit districts, regional

67 planning agencies and councils of governments in connection with the
68 implementation of projects funded pursuant to subsections (a) and (c)
69 of this section.

70 [(h) If, within two years of July 1, 2006,] (g) Not later than June 6,
71 2008, if the Department of Transportation is unable to implement the
72 intermodal connection between port and rail facilities at the port of
73 New Haven pursuant to subdivision [(13)] (15) of subsection (a) of this
74 section, the commissioner shall submit a report, pursuant to section 11-
75 4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having
76 cognizance of matters relating to transportation and finance, revenue
77 and bonding. Such report shall describe (1) the reasons the connection
78 cannot be completed, and (2) alternative ways to facilitate intermodal
79 shipping at the port.

80 Sec. 2. Section 13b-4 of the general statutes is repealed and the
81 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

82 The commissioner shall have the following general powers, duties
83 and responsibilities:

84 (1) To coordinate and develop comprehensive, integrated
85 transportation policy and planning to include a long-range master plan
86 of transportation for the state;

87 (2) To coordinate and assist in the development and operation of a
88 modern, safe, efficient and energy-conserving system of highway,
89 mass transit, marine and aviation facilities and services;

90 (3) To promote the coordinated and efficient use of all available and
91 future modes of transportation;

92 (4) To study commuter and urban travel and in cooperation with
93 federal, regional and local agencies and persons to formulate and
94 implement plans and programs to improve such travel;

95 (5) To study means of providing facilities for parking motor vehicles

96 so as to encourage travel by the combination of motor vehicle and
97 other modes of transportation and in cooperation with federal,
98 regional and local agencies and persons to formulate and implement
99 plans and programs for this purpose;

100 (6) To study means of improving transportation safety and to
101 formulate and implement plans and programs and adopt regulations,
102 in accordance with chapter 54, for this purpose;

103 (7) To study the operations of existing airports, to determine the
104 need for changes in such airports and the need for future airports, and
105 to formulate and implement plans and programs to improve aviation
106 facilities and services;

107 (8) To cooperate with federal, state, interstate and local agencies,
108 organizations and persons performing activities relating to
109 transportation;

110 (9) To exercise and perform such other duties and responsibilities as
111 may be conferred under this chapter and title 13a or as may otherwise
112 be conferred by law;

113 (10) To prepare a plan setting forth a recommendation for a
114 restructured system of regional transit districts within the state. Said
115 plan shall be based on: (A) Established patterns of commuter traffic
116 within the state; (B) federal requirements for receiving aid under the
117 Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, and (C) present planning
118 regions. On or before February 1, 1978, the commissioner shall present
119 such plan to the General Assembly;

120 (11) To prepare pertinent reports, including but not limited to,
121 detailed reports of energy use analysis by mode of transportation;
122 [and]

123 (12) To provide for the planning and construction of any capital
124 improvements and the remodeling, alteration, repair or enlargement of
125 any real asset that may be required for the development and operation

126 of a safe, efficient system of highway, mass transit, marine and
127 aviation transportation, provided (A) the acquisition, other than by
128 condemnation, or the sale or lease, of any property that is used for
129 such purposes shall be subject to the review and approval of the State
130 Properties Review Board in accordance with the provisions of
131 subsection (f) of section 4b-3, and (B) any contract for the planning,
132 construction, remodeling, alteration, repair or enlargement of any
133 public building which is estimated to cost more than five hundred
134 thousand dollars shall be advertised and awarded in accordance with
135 section 13b-20n; and

136 (13) To participate, subject to the availability of funds, in transit
137 oriented development projects at or near transit facilities.

138 Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 13b-79q of the general statutes is
139 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
140 *1, 2007*):

141 (b) The proceeds of the sale of the bonds to the extent hereinafter
142 stated shall be used for the purpose of payment of the transportation
143 costs, as defined in subdivision (6) of section 13b-75, with respect to (1)
144 strategic transportation projects identified in subsection (a) of section
145 13b-79p, as amended by this act; (2) transportation improvement
146 projects approved pursuant to subsection (b) of section 13b-79p, as
147 amended by this act; and sections 19, 24 and 25 of public act 06-136*;
148 and (3) project planning pursuant to sections 19, 24 and 25 of public act
149 06-136*, which projects and uses are hereby found and determined to
150 be in furtherance of one or more of the authorized purposes for the
151 issuance of special tax obligation bonds set forth in section 13b-74.

152 Sec. 4. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) The State Bond Commission shall
153 have power, in accordance with the provisions of sections 4 to 8,
154 inclusive, of this act, to authorize the issuance of special tax obligation
155 bonds of the state in one or more series and in principal amounts in the
156 aggregate, not exceeding forty million dollars.

157 (b) The proceeds of the sale of said bonds, to the extent hereinafter
158 stated, shall be used for the purpose of payment of transportation
159 costs, as defined in subdivision (6) of section 13b-75 of the general
160 statutes, with respect to the projects and uses hereinafter described.
161 Said projects and uses are hereby found and determined to be in
162 furtherance of one or more of the authorized purposes for the issuance
163 of special tax obligation bonds set forth in section 13b-74 of the general
164 statutes, for the Department of Transportation for the Bureau of Public
165 Transportation:

166 (1) Parking garage at the Stamford Transportation Center, including
167 rights-of-way, other property acquisition and related projects, not
168 exceeding thirty-five million dollars; and

169 (2) Capital improvements to rail stations on the New Haven Line,
170 the branch lines and Shore Line East, not exceeding five million
171 dollars.

172 Sec. 5. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) None of the bonds issued pursuant to
173 sections 4 to 8, inclusive, of this act, shall be authorized except upon a
174 finding by the State Bond Commission that there has been filed with it
175 (1) a request for such authorization, which is signed by the Secretary of
176 the Office of Policy and Management or by or on behalf of such state
177 officer, department or agency and stating such terms and conditions as
178 said commission, in its discretion, may require, and (2) any capital
179 development impact statement and any human services facility
180 location statement required to be filed with the Secretary of the Office
181 of Policy and Management pursuant to section 4b-23 of the general
182 statutes, any advisory report regarding the state conservation and
183 development policies plan required pursuant to section 16a-31, and
184 any statement regarding farmland required pursuant to subsection (g)
185 of section 3-20 of the general statutes and section 22-6 of the general
186 statutes, provided the State Bond Commission may authorize the
187 bonds without a finding that the reports and statements required by
188 this section have been filed with it if the commission authorizes the

189 secretary of the commission to accept the reports and statements on its
190 behalf. No funds derived from the sale of bonds authorized by the
191 commission without a finding that the reports and statements required
192 by this section have been filed with it shall be allotted by the Governor
193 for any project until the reports and statements required by this
194 section, with respect to the project, have been filed with the secretary
195 of the commission.

196 Sec. 6. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) For the purposes of sections 4 to 8,
197 inclusive, of this act, each request filed as provided in section 5 of this
198 act for an authorization of bonds shall identify the project for which
199 the proceeds of the sale of the bonds are to be used and expended and,
200 in addition to any terms and conditions required pursuant to section 5
201 of this act, include the recommendation of the person signing the
202 request as to the extent to which federal, private or other money then
203 available or thereafter to be made available for costs in connection with
204 any such project should be added to the state money available or
205 becoming available from the proceeds of bonds and temporary notes
206 issued in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of bonds. If the
207 request includes a recommendation that some amount of the federal,
208 private or other money should be added to the state money, then, if
209 and to the extent directed by the State Bond Commission at the time of
210 authorization of the bonds, the amount of the federal, private or other
211 money then available or thereafter to be made available for costs in
212 connection with the project shall be added to the state money.

213 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) Any balance of proceeds of the
214 sale of the bonds authorized for the projects or purposes of section 4 of
215 this act in excess of the aggregate costs of all the projects so authorized
216 shall be used in the manner set forth in sections 13b-74 to 13b-77,
217 inclusive, of the general statutes, and in the proceedings of the State
218 Bond Commission respecting the issuance and sale of the bonds.

219 Sec. 8. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) The bonds issued pursuant to sections 4
220 to 8, inclusive, of this act, shall be special obligations of the state and

221 shall neither be payable from nor charged upon any funds other than
222 revenues of the state pledged therefor in subsection (b) of section 13b-
223 61 of the general statutes, and section 13b-69 of the general statutes, or
224 such other receipts, funds or moneys as may be pledged therefor. The
225 bonds shall neither be payable from nor charged upon any funds other
226 than the pledged revenues or such other receipts, funds or money as
227 may be pledged therefor. The state or any political subdivision of the
228 state shall not be subject to any liability thereon, except to the extent of
229 the pledged revenues or such other receipts, funds or money as may be
230 pledged therefor. The bonds shall be issued under and in accordance
231 with the provisions of sections 13b-74 to 13b-77, inclusive, of the
232 general statutes.

233 Sec. 9. Subsection (j) of section 13b-57g of the general statutes is
234 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
235 *October 1, 2007*):

236 (j) Not later than January 1, 2007, and biennially thereafter, the
237 board shall review and, if necessary, revise the strategy adopted
238 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section. A report describing any
239 revisions and the reasons for them shall be submitted to the Governor
240 and, pursuant to section 11-4a, the General Assembly. Such report
241 shall include a prioritized list of projects which the board, in
242 consultation with the commissioner, determines are necessary to
243 implement the recommended strategy, including the estimated capital
244 and operating costs and time frame of such projects. Not later than
245 January 31, 2007, and biennially thereafter, the joint standing
246 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
247 relating to transportation, finance, revenue and bonding and planning
248 and development shall meet with the Commissioners of
249 Transportation and Economic and Community Development, the
250 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the chairperson of
251 the Transportation Strategy Board and such other persons as they
252 deem appropriate to consider the report required by this subsection.

253 Sec. 10. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section,
 254 "long lead time item" means transportation equipment or rolling stock
 255 which (1) has a capital cost of more than one million dollars; and (2)
 256 will not be delivered until at least two years after the adoption of the
 257 resolution required by subsection (b) of this section.

258 (b) The Commissioner of Transportation may, with the approval of
 259 the Governor and the State Bond Commission, enter into contracts for
 260 long lead time items prior to the allocation of any or all bond funds for
 261 such purpose, provided sufficient funds have been authorized and will
 262 be available for use at the time when payment is contractually
 263 required. The State Bond Commission resolution of approval shall
 264 specify the item or items to be purchased, the time or times when
 265 payment will be due and payable, and the source of funds for such
 266 purpose. No funds so identified shall be used for any other purpose.

267 Sec. 11. Section 13b-79x of the general statutes is repealed and the
 268 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

269 Not later than the day on which the Governor's proposed biennial
 270 budget is required to be submitted to the General Assembly pursuant
 271 to section 4-71, the Governor shall recommend to the General
 272 Assembly (1) any projects which the Governor believes are necessary
 273 to implement the [recommended] transportation strategy adopted
 274 pursuant to section 13b-57g; and (2) a financing plan for such projects.

275 Sec. 12. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) During the fiscal years ending June 30,
 276 2008, and June 30, 2009, the Commissioner of Transportation is
 277 authorized, subject to the availability of funds, to make a grant-in-aid
 278 of up to three million dollars per year in support of the Southeastern
 279 Connecticut Tourist Transit System, provided that such grant is
 280 matched by equal funding from nonstate sources.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	13b-79p
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	13b-4
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	13b-79q(b)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 9	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	13b-57g(j)
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 11	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	13b-79x
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]